

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 /071 W

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R 220405Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2480

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0169

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TC, US

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON ARAB-ISRAEL NEGOTIATIONS

WHEN I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER SUWAIDI JANUARY 16 HE ASKED ME TO STOP BY AGAIN SOON TO BRIEF HIM ON EXPANDED IMF OIL FACILITY AND OUR \$25 BILLION "SAFETY NET" PROPOSAL. HE ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ANY INFORMATION I COULD GIVE HIM ON CURRENT STATUS OF ARAB-ISRAEL NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE EMBASSY HAS SUFFICIENT MATERIAL TO BRIEF FONMIN ON ECONOMIC SUBJECTS, IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME NOW SINCE I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONVEY ANYTHING TO UAEG ON ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEM BEYOND WHAT WE BOTH READ IN PUBLIC SOURCES. WITH LATEST ALLON VISIT OBVIOUSLY IN MIND, SUWAIDI SEEMS TO SENSE THAT OUR EFFORTS TO GET FURTHER STATE OF SETTLEMENT HAS REACHED CRITICAL PHASE. HE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN WHETHER WE SEE NEGOTIATIONS MOVING AHEAD ONLY ON EGYPTIAN FRONT OR WHETHER THERE IS PROSPECT FOR PROGRESS WITH SYRIA AS WELL. WHILE I REALIZE THAT WE WILL NOT WISH TO GO INTO ANY GREAT DETAIL WITH UAEG, I BELIEVE IT GOOD POLICY TO BRIEF THEM PERIODICALLY IN GENERAL TERMS ON WHERE MATTERS STAND. TO FAIL TO DO SO GIVES TOO MUCH OF AN ADVANTAGE TO OTHERS HERE, SUCH AS PALESTINIANS AND IRAQIS, WHO FREQUENTLY SEE SHAIKH ZAYID AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND WHO ARE OPPOSED TO A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND WOULD JUST AS SOON SEE US EFFORTS FAIL. I SEE NO REASON FOR US TO ALLOW THESE PEOPLE TO SHAPE UAEG'S OPTIC ON ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEM WITHOUT ANY INPUT FROM US.

STERNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ABUDH00169
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750024-0030
From: ABU DHABI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750132/aaaabbsi.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON ARAB-ISRAEL NEGOTIATIONS WHEN I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER SUWAIDI JANUARY 16 HE ASKED ME TO STOP
TAGS: PFOR, TC, US, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006